

HOUSE BILL 1170

By Maggart

AN ACT relative to the erection and maintenance of directional signs for historic Rock Castle.

WHEREAS, one of Tennessee's most important structures of the early Republic is Rock Castle, located on Old Hickory Lake in Hendersonville; and

WHEREAS, Rock Castle, the home of Daniel Smith, was originally a plantation that boasted over 3,000 acres and a house, smokehouse, and cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Smith was a renowned surveyor, a Captain in the Revolutionary War, Brigadier General of the Mero District, Secretary of the Territory of the United States Southwest of the River Ohio, chairman of the committee to draft the Constitution of Tennessee, United States Senator, and Indian treaty negotiator; and

WHEREAS, the original housing unit consisted of two rooms built in the 1780's and was later expanded, so that by 1796 the dwelling comprised seven rooms, an enormous abode in its day; and

WHEREAS, Rock Castle was built from local resources, with the limestone and wood that comprise its structure coming from nearby; and

WHEREAS, the noteworthy architecture of this unique building is a testament to the ingenuity and craftsmanship of its distinguished owner in the late 18th century; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that directional signs be erected to inform persons of this important historical landmark; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the department of transportation is hereby directed to erect and maintain signs for historic Rock Castle in

Hendersonville, Tennessee. Such signs shall bear the following language in substantially the same format:

## Historic Rock Castle

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect and maintain the signs described in Section 1 at the following locations:

- (1) Interstate 65 southbound at mile marker 96 (Rivergate Parkway in Davidson County);
- (2) Interstate 65 northbound at mile marker 95 (Vietnam Veterans Parkway in Davidson County);
- (3) Interstate 40 westbound at mile marker 232-A (State Highway 109); and
- (4) Interstate 40 eastbound at mile marker 232-B (State Highway 109).

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional and trailblazing signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-

state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.